A FAWCETT MAGAZINE

# CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.

MAY

10¢

NO. 30

COMING AT YOU!

CAPT. MARVEL JR.

THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY!

# CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.

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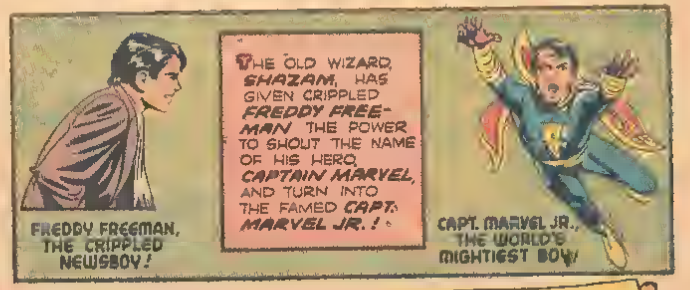


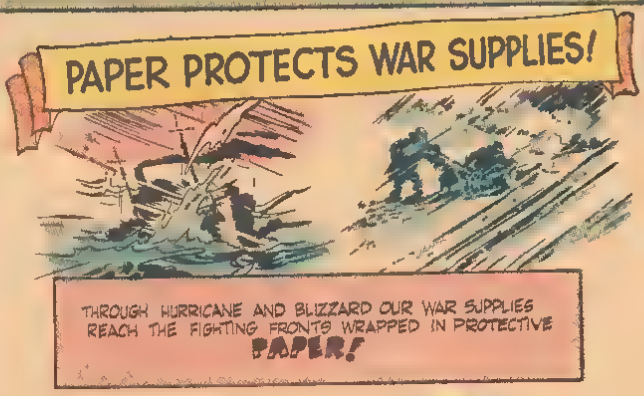

**THEY'VE GONE ACROSS! YOU COME ACROSS!**

**ORDER IN ADVANCE!** We are trying to cooperate 100% in the war effort. With this aim in view, and due to the paper shortage, we are cutting down on the number of copies of each magazine printed. We therefore suggest that you ask your news dealer to reserve your copy of your favorite comics, just to make sure he isn't all sold out when you get to the stand. We incidentally, if the issue isn't on sale the day we announced it would be, remember the transportation difficulties. Every now and then a magazine will be late, even though we'll do our best to avoid it. We're cooperating! Will you? **RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW!**

**May, 1945. Vol. 5, No. 30**

**CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. SUBSCRIPTION RATE 12 ISSUES FOR $1.20 IN U. S. AND POSSESSIONS**

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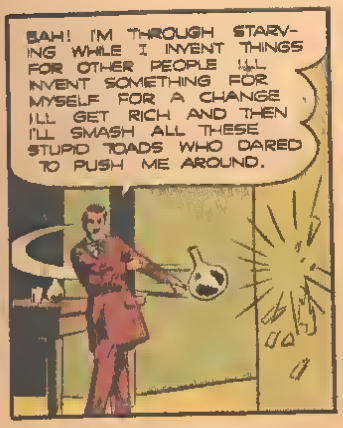
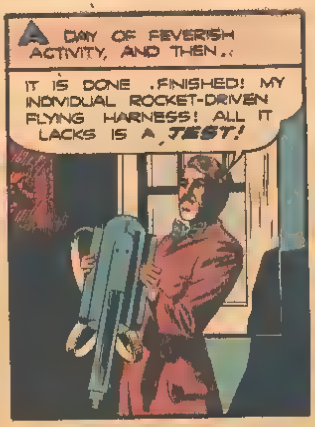
Capt. Marvel Jr.
MEETS THE AMAZING MR. METEOR!
TROUBLE REARS ITS HEAD IN THE "LABORATORY" OF AN INVENTOR NAMED JONES.
AND IF I DON'T GET MY RENT BY NIGHT, JONES, OUT YOU GO!
YES, MRS. SHARPE. I'LL HAVE IT FOR YOU!
OH, THE SHAME OF IT... I, ERASMUS JONES, THE WORLD'S GREATEST INVENTOR, TREATED LIKE A BUM! I'LL CALL SOMEBODY AND BORROW SOME MONEY.
I FORGOT! THE TELEPHONE COMPANY DISCONNECTED MY PHONE BECAUSE I OWE SO MUCH MONEY.
I'LL TURN ON THE LIGHTS AND... OOPS! MY LIGHTS HAVE BEEN SHUT OFF, TOO! THIS IS THE END!


BAH! I'M THROUGH STARVING WHILE I INVENT THINGS FOR OTHER PEOPLE I'LL INVENT SOMETHING FOR MYSELF FOR A CHANGE I'LL GET RICH AND THEN I'LL SMASH ALL THESE STUPID TOADS WHO DARED TO PUSH ME AROUND.


A DAY OF FEVERISH ACTIVITY, AND THEN..
IT IS DONE .FINISHED! MY INDIVIDUAL ROCKET-DRIVEN FLYING HARNESS! ALL IT LACKS IS A TEST!

WHEE! I CAN FLY LIKE A BIRD, ONLY A HUNDRED TIMES FASTER! I'LL SELL THIS INVENTION FOR A HUNDRED THOUSAND...

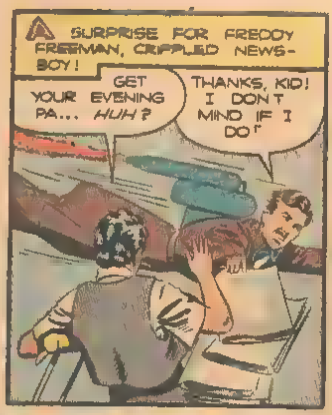
WAIT! WHY SHOULD I SELL IT FOR A MEASLY $100,000? I'LL KEEP IT MYSELF AND MAKE MILLIONS! I'LL BE RICH... RICH! I'LL TAKE EVERYTHING I WANT! AND NOBODY CAN STOP OR CATCH ME! I'LL CALL MYSELF MR. METEOR!

A LITTLE LATER, IN A DOWNTOWN STORE...
OUR BIGGEST DAY'S BUSINESS, SAM! PUT THE MONEY IN THE SAFE AND WE'LL BANK IT FIRST THING IN THE MORNING..

.YIII-II!
THE MONEY'S GONE!!
CRASH
SWISH

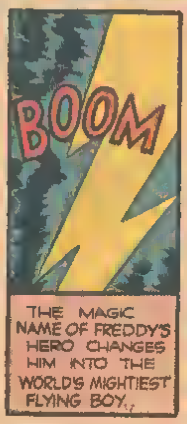
STOP, THIEF!
HA-HA-HA! YOU'LL NEVER STOP MR METEOR!

PAPER! EVENING PAPER!
THE EVENING PAPER! I'LL GET THE LATEST NEWS.


A SURPRISE FOR FREDDY FREEMAN, CRIPPLED NEWSBOY!
GET YOUR EVENING PA... HUH?
THANKS, KID! I DON'T MIND IF I DO!

WHA.. ? A FLYING THIEF-- AND A PETTY THIEF AT THAT
THERE HE GOES! HE STOLE ALL THE MONEY FROM OUR STORE!

NOT SUCH A PETTY THIEF AFTER ALL! HE SURPRISED ME! NOW I'LL SURPRISE HIM!.. CAPT. MARVEL!

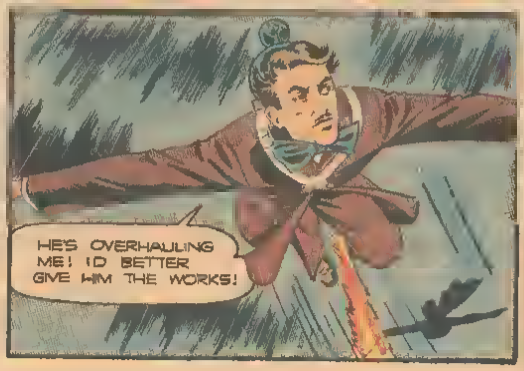

BOOM
THE MAGIC NAME OF FREDDY'S HERO CHANGES HIM INTO THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST FLYING BOY..

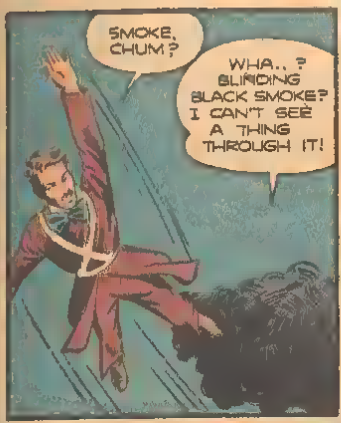
..CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!
A POWER LIKE THAT HAD BETTER BE STOPPED QUICK!
DID I HEAR THUNDER? HAVE TO STEAL AN UMBRELLA!

BETTER GRAB ONE BIG ENOUGH TO USE AS A PARACHUTE YOU ROCKET-DRIVEN RAT!
AWRRK! CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.! I FORGOT ABOUT YOU!

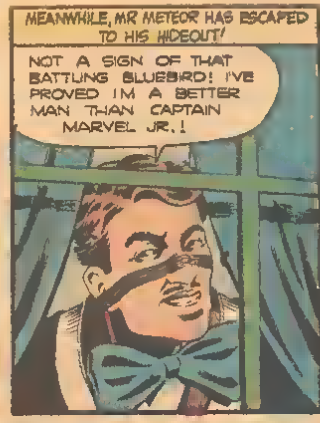
YOU'LL FORGET MORE THAN THAT WHEN.. OOOF! MISSED!
REMIND ME TO STEAL A SPEEDOMETER SOMETIME!

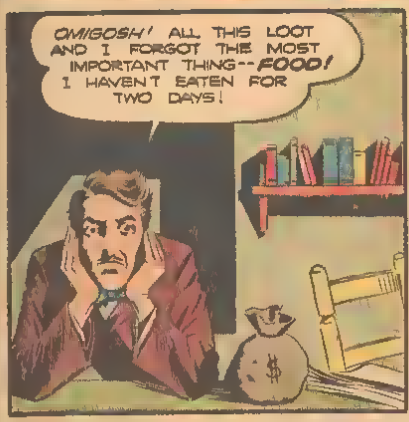
WHEW! LOOK AT THAT TWO-LEGGED SPITFIRE TRAVEL! I'LL REALLY HAVE TO PUT ON SPEED!
HA-HA! YOU'LL NEVER CATCH MR. METEOR!


HE'S OVERHAULING ME! I'D BETTER GIVE HIM THE WORKS!


SMOKE, CHUM?
WHA.. ? BLINDING BLACK SMOKE? I CAN'T SEE A THING THROUGH IT!

HE GOT AWAY! I MIGHT AS WELL GO BACK TO THE NEWS-STAND AND FIGURE OUT HOW TO TRAP THAT JET-PROPELLED CROOK. HE'LL BE OUT AGAIN!


MEANWHILE, MR METEOR HAS ESCAPED TO HIS HIDEOUT!
NOT A SIGN OF THAT BATTLING BLUEBIRD! I'VE PROVED I'M A BETTER MAN THAN CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!

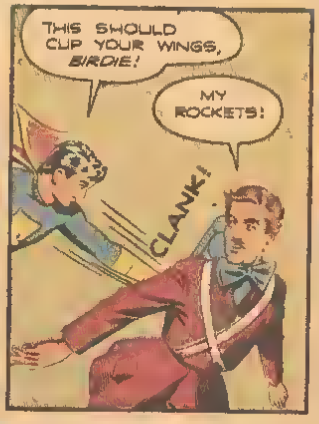

OMIGOSH! ALL THIS LOOT AND I FORGOT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING--FOOD! I HAVEN'T EATEN FOR TWO DAYS!

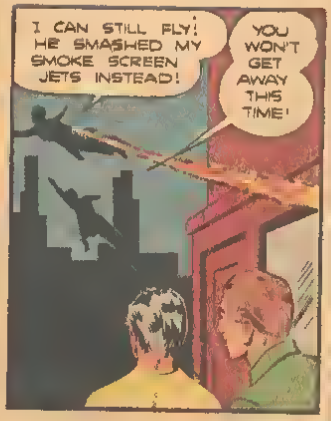
A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
MENU
EXACTLY WHAT I WOULD HAVE CHOSEN, FRIEND!
EEE-AWK! I'VE BEEN ROBBED!

BUT I CAN'T STAND CUSTARD PIE!
GALLUB-BLUB!

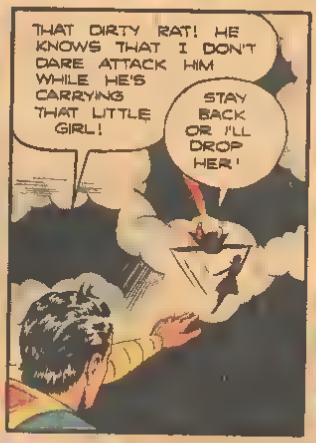
I'LL HAVE APPLE PIE! OUT OF MY WAY!
I'LL EAT AND...WOW! MR. METEOR AGAIN...
CAPTAIN MARVEL!

IF YOU'RE THIRSTY, TRY SOME OF MY PUNCH! IT MAKES A HIT EVERYWHERE!
AWRRK!


THIS SHOULD CLIP YOUR WINGS, BIRDIE!
MY ROCKETS!
CLANK!

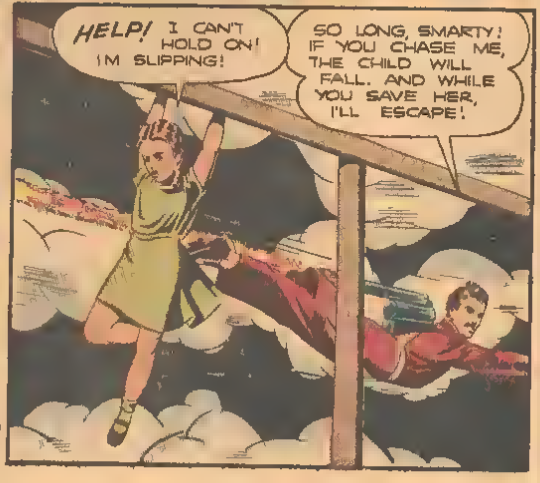

I CAN STILL FLY! HE SMASHED MY SMOKE SCREEN JETS INSTEAD!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY THIS TIME!

I NEED A SHIELD, MADAM, DO YOU MIND?
EEK! MY BABY!


THAT DIRTY RAT! HE KNOWS THAT I DON'T DARE ATTACK HIM WHILE HE'S CARRYING THAT LITTLE GIRL!
STAY BACK OR I'LL DROP HER!

I'VE GOT TO SHAKE HIM OFF AND ESCAPE! AHH-H! THAT RADIO AERIAL MAST GIVES ME THE IDEA!
PLEASE PUT ME DOWN! I'M AFRAID!

HERE, GRAB THIS AND HANG ON! THAT NICE BLUE BOY WILL SAVE YOU!
WHAT'S THAT RAT UP TO NOW?


HELP! I CAN'T HOLD ON! I'M SLIPPING!
SO LONG, SMARTY! IF YOU CHASE ME, THE CHILD WILL FALL. AND WHILE YOU SAVE HER, I'LL ESCAPE!

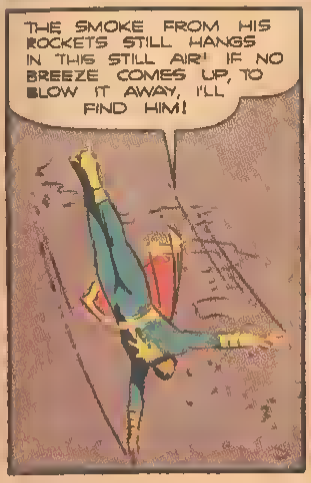
THERE'S NO QUESTION OF CHOICE FOR ME.
EEEEEE!!

I'LL SAVE YOU!

OOO! THANK YOU, CAPT. MARVEL JR.!
NOW I'VE GOT TO HURRY!

NO USE! THAT FLYING FLEA HOPPED OUT OF SIGHT AGAIN! I'LL NEVER FIND HIM!

WOW! THIS IS THE BREAK OF A LIFETIME!

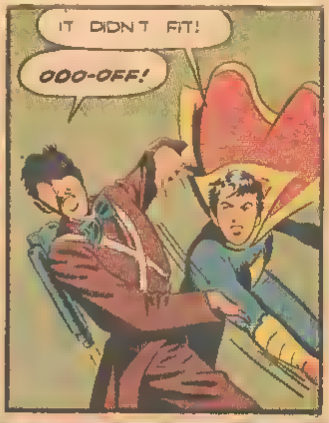

THE SMOKE FROM HIS ROCKETS STILL HANGS IN THIS STILL AIR! IF NO BREEZE COMES UP, TO BLOW IT AWAY, I'LL FIND HIM!

THE END OF THE TRAIL AND SOON THE END OF MR. METEOR.

SURPRISE!
AWRRK!!

HEH-HEH! YOU'LL NEVER PIN ME DOWN!
I'LL HAVE FUN TRYING!

TRY THIS ON FOR SIZE!


IT DIDN'T FIT!
OOO-OFF!

I'M LEAVING!
OF COURSE! BUT NOT ON YOUR OWN POWER!

LEGGO, LEGGO! I CAN'T SHOOT OFF MY ROCKET!
DON'T WORRY! IT'LL RUN OUT OF FUEL SOON... YAWN..

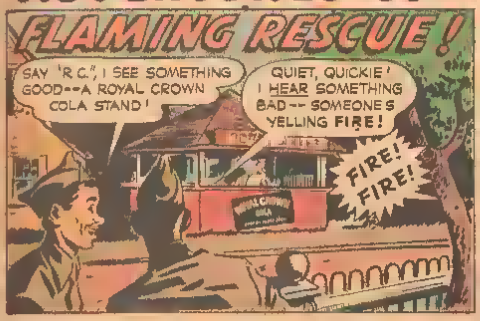
SEE? WHAT DID I TELL YOU! BUT YOU WON'T NEED ROCKETS WHERE YOU'RE GOING!

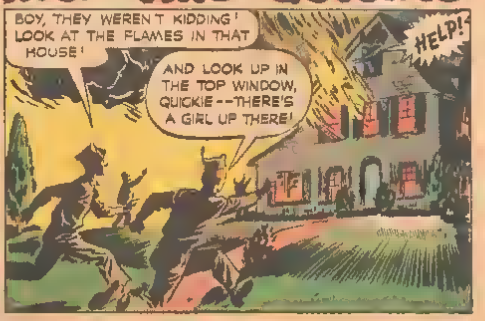
AND THAT'S THE END OF WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL A SKY-ROCKET CAREER.

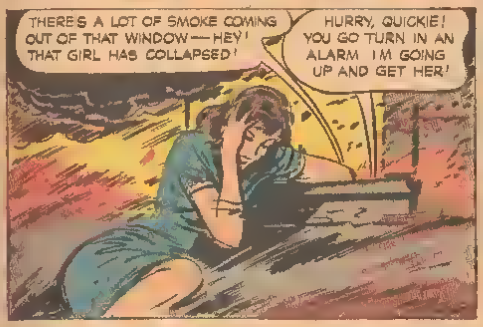
WELL, I'VE LEARNED MY LESSON THERE'S NO QUICK ROAD TO SUCCESS!

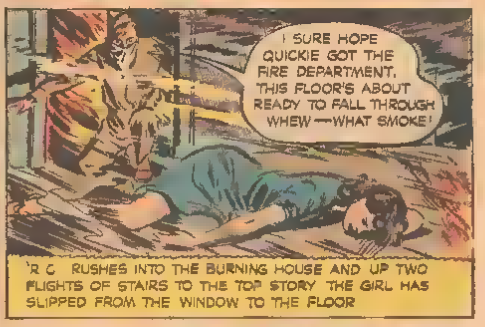
# ADVENTURES OF "R.C." AND QUICKIE

## FLAMING RESCUE!

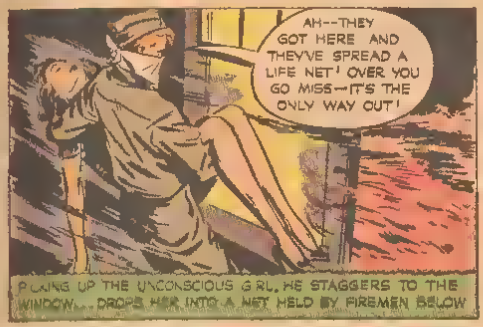



'R.C.' RUSHES INTO THE BURNING HOUSE AND UP TWO FLIGHTS OF STAIRS TO THE TOP STORY. THE GIRL HAS SLIPPED FROM THE WINDOW TO THE FLOOR.




PICKING UP THE UNCONSCIOUS GIRL, HE STAGGERS TO THE WINDOW... DROPS HER INTO A NET HELD BY FIREMEN BELOW

'R.C.' SEES THE FIREMEN CATCH THE GIRL SAFELY AND THEN JUMPS HIMSELF!

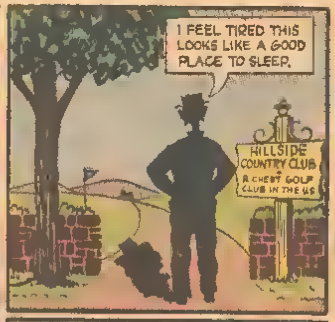
COWBOY STAR JIMMY WAKELY SAYS:

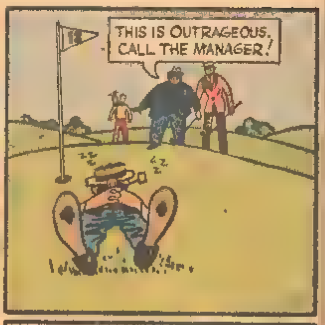
SURE THING! IT DOES TASTE BEST!

Cowboy star Jimmy Wakely has a share taste for colas! He tried leading colas in paper cups and picked the one that tasted best. It was Royal Crown Cola! "R.C. is my favorite 'quick up' treat!" says Jimmy. Try it today! 2 full glasses in each 5¢ bottle.

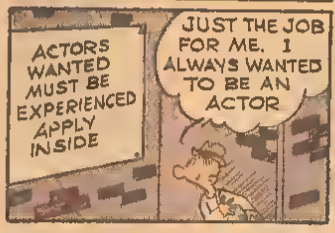
See Jimmy Wakely in "SONG OF THE RANGE" a Monogram picture

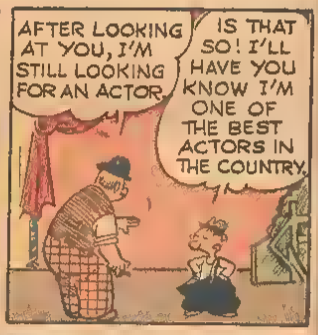
ROYAL CROWN COLA
Best by Taste Test!



## RUBBERNOSE RANDOLPH
### TO BE OR NOT TO BE



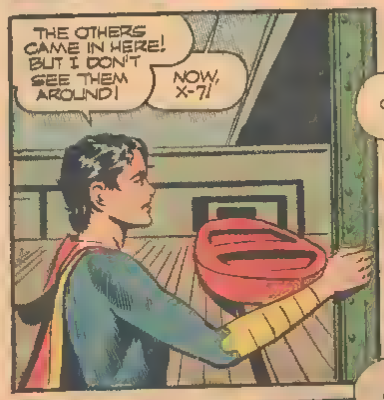


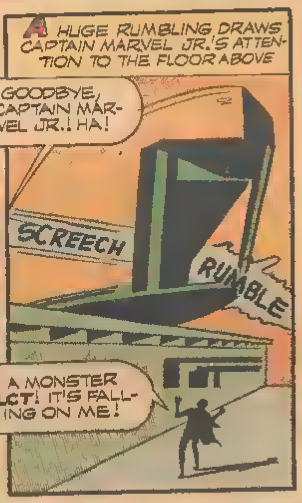
Capt. MARVEL Jr.
ON TRIAL FOR HIS OWN MURDER!
"CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. ON TRIAL FOR MURDER!" ... THAT IS STARTLING NEWS... BUT WHEN WE FIND CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. ON TRIAL FOR HIS OWN MURDER AND ALL THE EVIDENCE POINTS TO HIS GUILT, THEN WE HAVE A PATTERN FOR SABOTAGE SO DEVILISH IN ITS INGENUITY THAT IT THREATENS TO DEFEAT THE GREATEST EFFORTS OF THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY!

OUR STORY BEGINS WHEN CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. TRAILED A GANG OF SABOTEURS TO THE GATES OF A WEST COAST SHIPYARD!
I HOPED THEY'D MEET THEIR LEADER HERE! BUT I CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER!

I'LL HAVE TO BE SATISFIED WITH THE SMALL-FRY!
G-GOCK! IT'S CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!

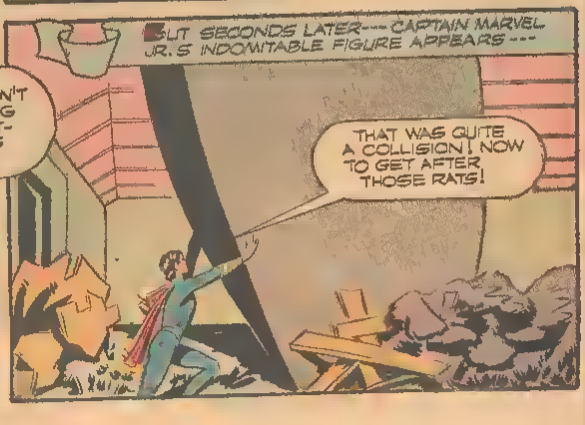
LET GO OF ME! I'LL BURN YOU UP!
YOU MIGHT AS WELL HAVE YOUR FUN NOW!


THE OTHERS CAME IN HERE! BUT I DON'T SEE THEM AROUND!
NOW, X-7!


A HUGE RUMBLING DRAWS CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.'S ATTENTION TO THE FLOOR ABOVE
GOODBYE, CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.! HA!
SCREECH
RUMBLE
A MONSTER LOT! IT'S FALLING ON ME!

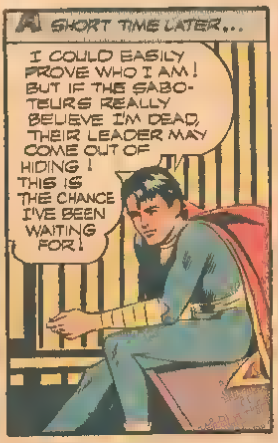
TONS OF METAL PLUNGE TO EARTH ATOP CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!

HE WON'T BOTHER US AGAIN! NOW TO GET AWAY BEFORE THE GUARDS COME!
WE'LL REPORT BACK TO THE BOSS! HE WON'T BE MAD ABOUT FAILING TO BLOW UP THE FACTORY WHEN HE FINDS OUT WHAT WE DID!


BUT SECONDS LATER--- CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.'S INDOMITABLE FIGURE APPEARS---
THAT WAS QUITE A COLLISION! NOW TO GET AFTER THOSE RATS!

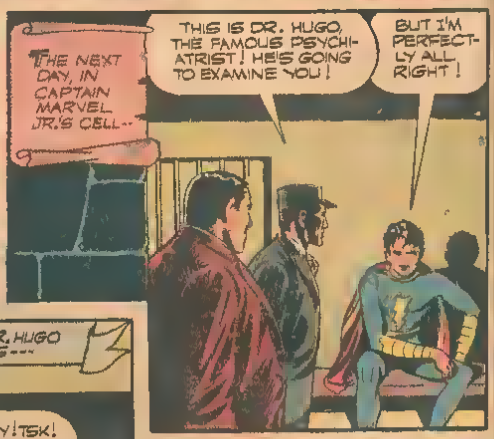
NO TRACE OF THE GANG OF SABOTEURS! THEY'VE SCURRIED BACK TO THEIR HOLES!
NEAR THE SPOT WHERE HE KNOCKED OUT A MEMBER OF THE GANG, CAPTAIN MARVEL JR FINDS AN INTERESTING SKETCH...
IVE GOT TO FIND SOME WAY OF SMOKING THEM OUT!
A ROUGH MAP OF THE POWERHOUSE AT BOULDER DAM! THAT MUST BE WHERE THEY INTENDED TO STRIKE NEXT!
WITHIN A FEW HOURS, SCREAMING HEADLINES REPORT THE NEWS THAT SHOCKS A NATION! UNKNOWN TO BOTH THE SABOTEURS AND THE BLUE BOY, THERE HAS BEEN A WITNESS TO THE SCENE!
Daily Star
CAPT. MARVEL JR. KILLED!
NIGHT WATCHMAN EYE WITNESS TO DEATH OF BOY HERO!
IT'S A SHAME! I NEVER THOUGHT ANYTHING COULD KILL HIM! I HOPE THEY CATCH HIS MURDERER SOON!
THE DIRTY SABOTEURS! I'D LIKE TO GET MY HANDS ON ONE OF THEM NOW!
Daily Star
CAPTAIN M
JR. K
IVE FAILED COMPLETELY! NOT ONLY HAVEN'T I FOUND A CLUE TO THE LEADER OF THE SABOTAGE GANG... BUT I'VE LET HIS HENCHMEN ESCAPE!
L-L-LOOK!
LOOK! SOMEONE IN CAPTAIN MARVEL JR'S CLOTHES! BY THUNDER! IT MUST BE ONE OF THE SABOTEURS!
BUT, AT THAT MOMENT, CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. PASSES BY!
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
WH-WHAT?

BUT I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG! WHAT'S THE CHARGE AGAINST ME?
YOU'RE CHARGED WITH THE MURDER OF CAPT. MARVEL JR. I'COME ALONG QUIETLY!


A SHORT TIME LATER...
I COULD EASILY PROVE WHO I AM! BUT IF THE SABOTEURS REALLY BELIEVE I'M DEAD, THEIR LEADER MAY COME OUT OF HIDING! THIS IS THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!

BUT THE WILY LEADER OF THE SABOTAGE GANG CONFERS WITH HIS MEN
BOSS, THIS GUY THEY ARRESTED MAY BE CAPTAIN MARVEL JR HIMSELF!
I'VE THOUGHT OF THAT POSSIBILITY! I PROMISE YOU THAT HE WILL BE ELIMINATED! AND WITHOUT DANGER TO OURSELVES!

THE COURTS WILL DO IT FOR US! I WILL SEE TO IT THAT CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. IS KILLED LEGALLY!


THE NEXT DAY, IN CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.'S CELL--
THIS IS DR. HUGO, THE FAMOUS PSYCHIATRIST! HE'S GOING TO EXAMINE YOU!
BUT I'M PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT!

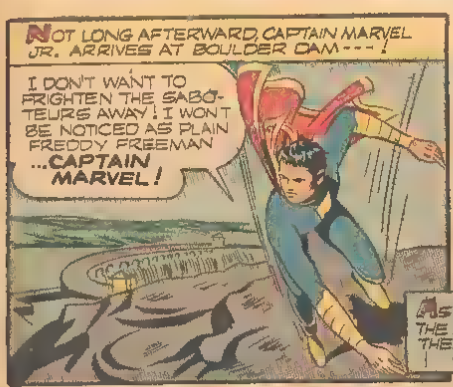
DR. HUGO MAKES A THOROUGH CHECK-UP.
DON'T BE FRIGHTENED! THIS IS JUST A ROUTINE EXAMINATION!

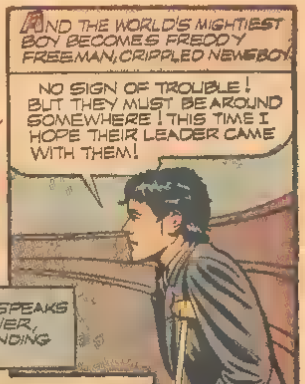
FINALLY, DR. HUGO DEPARTS---
POOR BOY! TSK! TSK! SO PITIFULLY YOUNG, TOO!
BUT-- BUT YOU DON'T MEAN THAT I'M---

I WONDER WHAT HE DID MEAN? THERE'S SOMETHING VERY STRANGE ABOUT DR. HUGO!

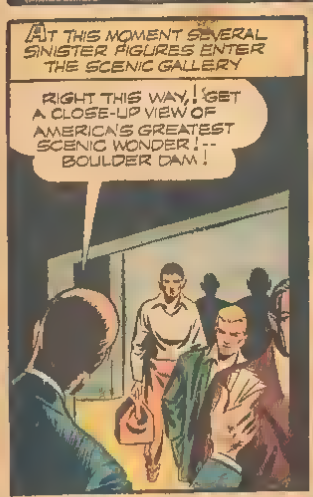
THE DAY OF THE TRIAL, HUGE CROWDS GATHER OUTSIDE THE COURTHOUSE, DEMANDING VENGEANCE FOR THE MURDER OF CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!
THAT'S RIGHT!
HE'LL GET WHAT'S COMING TO HIM!
While IN THE COURT-ROOM, CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. IS SUBJECTED TO AN INTENSE CROSS-EXAMINATION!
YOU DON'T DENY THAT WHAT YOU ARE WEARING BELONGED TO CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.?
NO, SIR! I CANNOT TELL A LIE! THIS IS HIS UNIFORM!
GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY! THERE REMAIN TWO POSSIBLE ANSWERS!... EITHER THIS BOY IS THE REAL CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. OR HE IS HIS MURDERER! I WILL NOW PROVE THAT HE IS NOT CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!
THERE IS PROOF! THE REAL CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. COULD BEND THAT IRON BAR WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE!
HE'S NOT KIDDING! I COULD TWIST THIS INTO A PRETZEL WITHOUT HALF TRYING! BUT I MUSTN'T LET ANYONE FIND OUT!
GOSH! THEY'VE ALMOST CONVINCED ME THAT I'M GUILTY! I HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE! BUT THAT'S WHAT I WANT!
DR. HUGO TESTIFIES FOR THE STATE...
MY EXAMINATION PROVES BEYOND A DOUBT THAT THIS BOY IS A HOMICIDAL MANIAC, CAPABLE OF THE WORST CRIMES!
THANK YOU, DR. HUGO!
THE CHRONICLE
CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. KILLER GUILTY
DIES IN CHAIR TON
SPEEDY EXECUTION SATISFIES PUBLIC CLAMOR FOR JUSTICE
HAVE YOU ANY LAST WORDS?
NO, SIR!

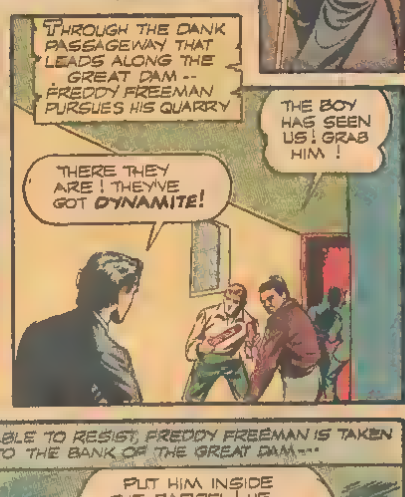
A TENSE HAND THROWS THE SWITCH! A BLAZE OF HIGH VOLTAGE BLASTS CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.'S BODY... IS THIS THE END OF THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY?
IN A HIDE-OUT ROOM, OTHERS ARE WAITING ANXIOUSLly FOR THE ANSWER TO THE SAME QUESTION
BOSS, DO YOU THINK HE WAS REALLY CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.?
HE LOOKED LIKE HIM! I WON'T FEEL SAFE UNTIL I KNOW HE'S DEAD!
WE'LL CARRY OUT OUR PLAN AT ONCE! WE'LL CRIPPLE THIS WHOLE REGION IN A SINGLE GREAT BLOW! WE'LL BLOW UP BOULDER DAM!
IS CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. DEAD? LET US LOOK AGAIN AT THE EXECUTION CHAMBER TO SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING...
IT'S INCREDIBLE! WE'VE GIVEN YOU TEN TIMES THE VOLTAGE NECESSARY TO KILL A MAN!
FLASH! THE KILLER OF CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. DIED IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR TONIGHT! HIS EXECUTION TOOK PLACE EXACTLY TEN MINUTES AGO!
GOOD! NOW WE'VE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!
I HOPE YOU DIDN'T BLOW OUT ANY FUSES!
THEN YOU--YOU MUST BE CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!
EXACTLY! I'M SORRY TO HAVE DECEIVED YOU! BUT IT WAS NECESSARY!
CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. SPEEDS NORTHWARD---
TELL THE NEWSPAPERS THAT THE REPORT OF MY DEATH WAS GREATLY EXAGGERATED! GOOD BYE NOW!
THE NEWS OF MY DEATH SHOULD HAVE REACHED THE LEADER OF THE SABOTAGE GANG BY NOW! I'VE GOT TO BE IN TIME TO PREVENT HIS PLAN FROM SUCCEEDING! IF HE CAN DESTROY BOULDER DAM, HE'LL BE TAKING THE ELECTRIC POWER FROM A GREAT SECTION OF THE UNITED STATES!






AS CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. SPEAKS THE MAGIC WORDS OF POWER, THERE IS A CRASH OF BLINDING LIGHTNING!

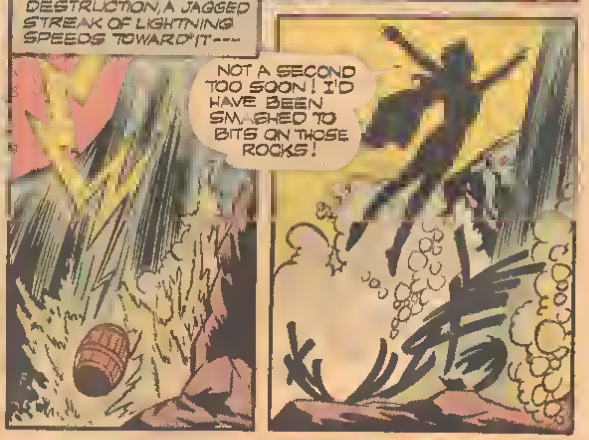




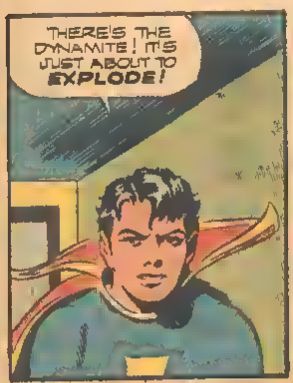
THERE HE GOES! A FEW MOMENTS AFTER HE HITS THE BOTTOM, THE DAM WILL EXPLODE! THE POWER STATION WILL BE SWEPT AWAY IN THE DELUGE THAT FOLLOWS!
YOU'RE A GENIUS, BOSS!

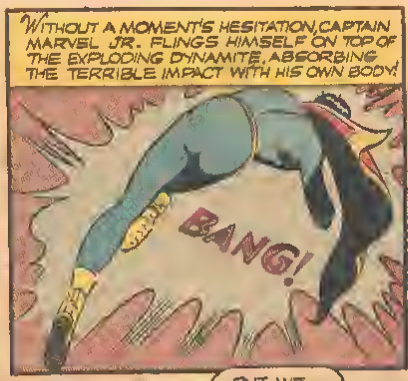
FASTER AND FASTER THE CURRENT SWEEPS THE BARREL TOWARD THE EDGE OF THE THUNDERING SLUICE GATES OF THE DAM!
I CAN'T GET OUT!
FRANTICALLY, FREDDY FREEMAN WORKS TO LOOSEN HIS GAG--
NOT MUCH TIME! I MUST BE NEAR THE EDGE OF THE DAM NOW!

I'VE WORKED THE GAG FREE! I CAN SAY ... CAPTAIN MARVEL!


EVEN AS THE BARREL HURTLES TO CERTAIN DESTRUCTION, A JAGGED STREAK OF LIGHTNING SPEEDS TOWARD IT---
NOT A SECOND TOO SOON! I'D HAVE BEEN SMASHED TO BITS ON THOSE ROCKS!

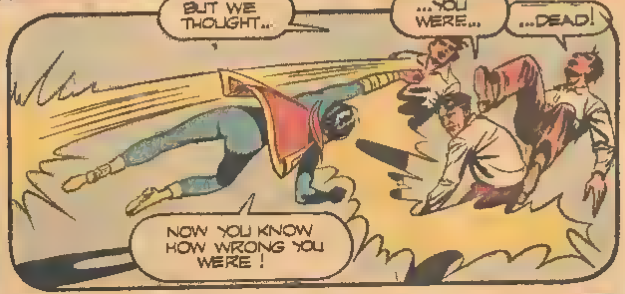
CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. PLUNGES HEADLONG THROUGH THE CURTAIN OF THE FALLS--

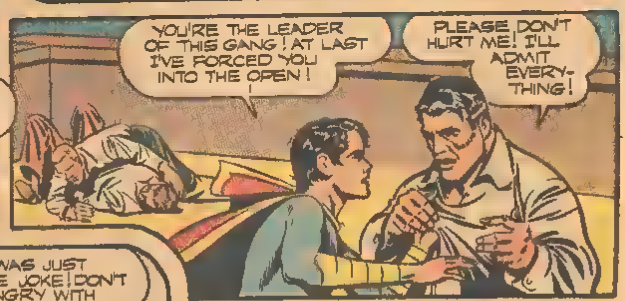

THERE'S THE DYNAMITE! IT'S JUST ABOUT TO EXPLODE!


WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION, CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. FLINGS HIMSELF ON TOP OF THE EXPLODING DYNAMITE, ABSORBING THE TERRIBLE IMPACT WITH HIS OWN BODY!
BANG!

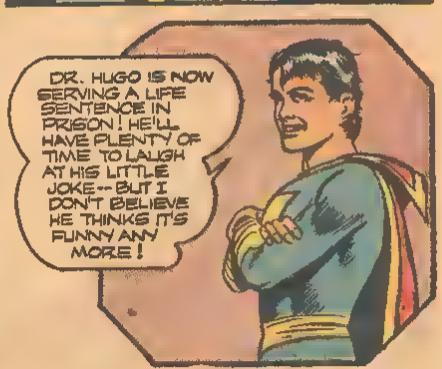
A CLOSE CALL! ONE SECOND LATER AND THAT EXPLOSION MIGHT HAVE DONE REAL DAMAGE!

MEANWHILE, THE MYSTERIOUS SABOTAGE LEADER WAITS IN VAIN FOR THE EXPLOSION THAT WILL DESTROY BOULDER DAM!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! THAT DYNAMITE WAS TIMED TO EXPLODE OVER A MINUTE AGO!
L--LOOK! IT'S CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!


BUT WE THOUGHT...
...YOU WERE...
...DEAD!
NOW YOU KNOW HOW WRONG YOU WERE!

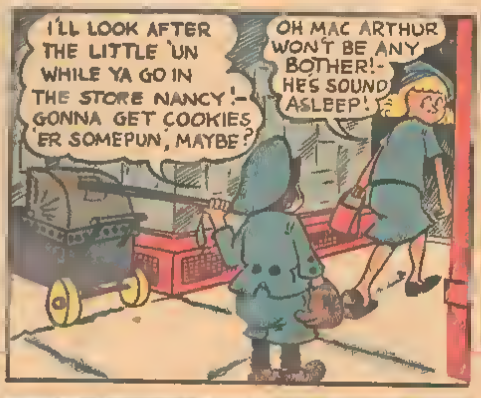

YOU'RE THE LEADER OF THIS GANG! AT LAST I'VE FORCED YOU INTO THE OPEN!
PLEASE, DON'T HURT ME! I'LL ADMIT EVERY-THING!

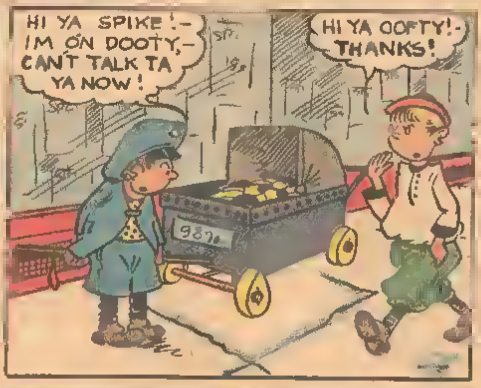
DR. HUGO! THIS CERTAINLY IS A SURPRISE! DO YOU STILL THINK I'M A HOMICIDAL MANIAC?
IT--IT WAS JUST A LITTLE JOKE! DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME!

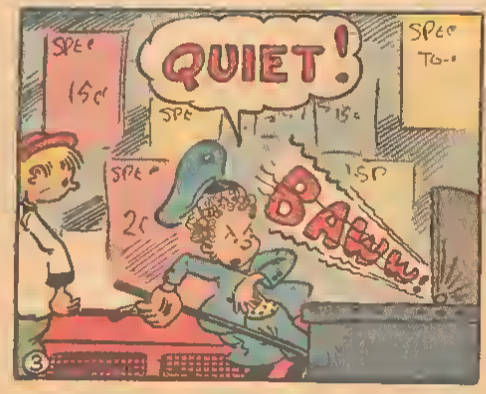

DR. HUGO IS NOW SERVING A LIFE SENTENCE IN PRISON! HE'LL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO LAUGH AT HIS LITTLE JOKE--BUT I DON'T BELIEVE HE THINKS IT'S FUNNY ANY MORE!

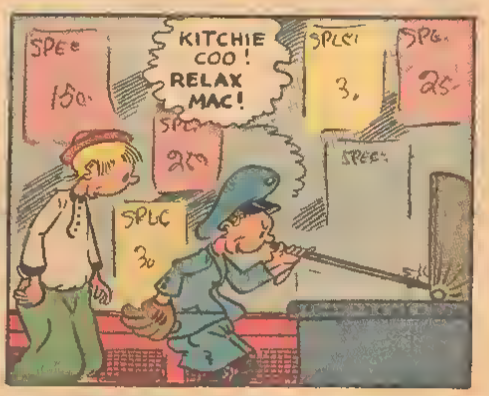
# OOFTY GOOFTY—

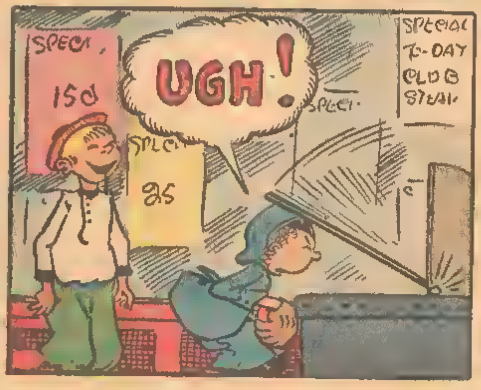
## HIS UNCLE IS A COP!

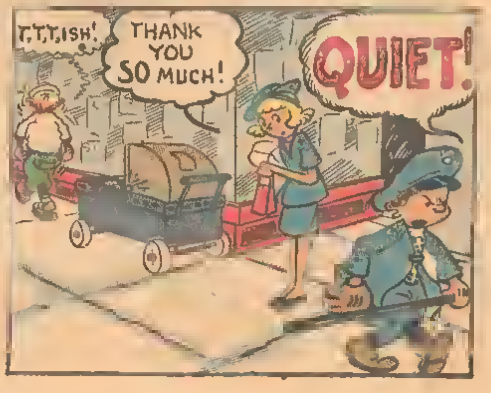


CAPTAIN MARVEL JUNIOR

# A BOOK BY ITS COVER

## BY LOUIS WOLFE

(NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER)

"YOU CAN'T tell a book by its cover." This means simply that before you judge anything you must know what's under the surface. This is especially true about people. For example, if you judged the hero of this story by his appearance he was a weakling and a coward. But let's see what happened.

Our hero lived many years ago when Greece and Rome were the only two nations that counted. Later Rome conquered Greece and became ruler of the world. Many of the Greeks became pirates and the most daring and powerful of them all was Spartaco. Just the very mention of his name struck terror into the heart of every merchant at sea. Tall, muscular and hard as rock, he fought with the strength of an ox and the fury of a tiger.

One morning as Spartaco and his men were scanning the seas, they espied a lone Roman merchant vessel. Spartaco shouted, "We have a visitor. Let's go out and welcome him." The Romans were soon aware that Spartaco and his band were bearing down on them, and realizing that the odds were hopeless, they surrendered and pleaded for mercy.

After inspecting the cargo to note its value, Spartaco and his men turned their attention to the passengers. Looking around they caught sight of something which almost made their eyes pop out of their heads. There standing before them was a dainty-looking young Roman in the midst of several servants. He seemed to be annoyed at all the commotion and did not even stop to see what was going on. Spartaco strode over to get a better look at this freak. This young, frail Roman had the bearing of a great nobleman. A white tunic covered his slender body and his hands were soft and smooth.

At the time he was being attended by a barber, his personal cook, and several valets and his doctor named Cinna. He condescended to glance at Spartaco and his cutthroats as if they were some uninvited guests who had come into his home. His insolent attitude made Spartaco fume with anger. Stalking up to the youth he growled, "Who are you? What's your name?" The frail Roman drew back scornfully, plainly indicating that he did not want anything as dirty as Spartaco to come near him.

Slowly turning to Cinna the young man said, "Tell this dirty creature who I am." Cinna then announced a name which, though unknown at the time, years later was to be on the lips of every Roman citizen. Spartaco smiled, turned to his lieutenant and said, "I wonder how much this young pup's family would pay to get him back? Maybe we can get at least ten talents." A talent was a little over $1,000.

The young nobleman for the first time lost his temper. Raising his head he glared at Spartaco and said, "Ten talents! Fool! If you had any brains at all, you would know that for me nothing less than fifty talents should be asked."

Such a staggering sum, over $60,000 in our money, left Spartaco and his men in a daze. Rising from his seat, the pirate chief chuckled, rubbed his hands together and said, "All right, my precious boy, fifty talents it will be."

Then the youth commanded, "You will take three of my servants back to Rome. I will send a letter with them. You will call for them in three weeks. They will return to you with instructions as to where you are to deliver me and get your money." Spartaco could not believe his ears. Here was this—this thing giving him, the pirate chief, orders! But, swallowing his pride and anger, he obeyed the young Roman.

HAVING transferred the cargo and the prisoners from the Roman ship to their own, the pirates sailed for their hide-out where they would await the message telling them the ransom was ready.

While waiting, the young prisoner seemed little concerned about his fate. He never gave the matter a second thought as he continued to live his life as usual. He dressed as fashionably as ever; ate and drank almost daintily. Every day he napped for an hour after lunch. Upon awakening he exercised by running, jumping and throwing stones. The pirates laughed and howled as they watched, but the youth ignored them completely.

After his workout he would bathe, then be massaged and rubbed with ointment. At four o'clock he would take his last meal of the day. Then for a half hour Cinna would read to him. Finally he would climb the highest rock and practice

public speaking You can imagine how the pirates roared with glee and slapped their thighs as they saw him speaking to the wind. The young man, however, continued his speech-making as if the cutthroats never existed But as time passed this haughty, disdainful air began to irritate the pirates And the first to lose his temper was Spartaco He was accustomed to being feared and dreaded by everyone, and right here in his own camp was a prisoner who paid him no respect and feared him less.

So one day he decided to teach this arrogant creature a lesson After dinner the pirate chief dressed himself in his very best clothes, his finest silks and jewels and purposely left his sandals untied The Roman who had just bathed and dressed was about to sit down to a light meal, when Spartaco stalked up to him, deliberately stamping his foot on the table where the youth was about to eat, Spartaco snarled, "Come, wretch! tie my sandal!"

The youth looked up, flicked imaginary dust off his sleeve, turned to his servant, said, "Take this table away and burn it Destroy every dish on it Never serve me food within twenty-four paces of this spot I think I shall always smell this savage if you do."

Spartaco roared with hate and anger. Drawing his dagger he approached the insolent prisoner Teeth clenched, he snarled, "First I shall cut out that tongue of yours, then I'll put an end to that look of scorn in your eyes."

The youth, unruffled, calmly replied, "You are just as stupid as I thought You are willing to lose fifty talents for one moment of revenge. You half-wit."

Like a flash Spartaco jumped at his throat But the pirates yelled in protest, "Fifty talents fifty talents! Let him live, captain! Alive he's worth fifty talents, dead he's worth nothing!" Reluctantly Spartaco released his grip from the youth's throat. "Young man, I warn you You are too free with your tongue" The Roman, not the least bit excited, looked down on Spartaco "Some day I shall return and hang you and the rest of your swine to the highest tree."

THREE WEEKS passed and no ransom Spartaco and his men became impatient Their palms itched to slit the throat of this insolent pup, Finally they set a certain day as a limit Beyond that they would wait no more The last day arrived and there was no message Two hours time was left to the dead line and Spartaco smiled as he fingered his dagger But suddenly a ship was seen on the horizon, a Roman ship By signals the vessel announced that they had the ransom and would hand it over for the return of the prisoner The young Roman without any excitement, leisurely prepared to take his leave. He surveyed Spartaco coolly "I expect to return soon."

"Well, that's fine," roared the pirate' "I'll be waiting for you and next time I'll demand seventy-five talents!"

The young Roman grinned slyly "But the next time you will be *my* guest"

When the young Roman was safe on native soil the Governor greeted him and invited him to dinner The reply was a sharp command, "I want four ships and five hundred fighting men to leave today under my command." The Governor, startled, tried to dissuade the young man from attacking the desperate band of cutthroats, but the youth was not to be denied Early that evening, four ships and five hundred soldiers sailed out to battle

The young Roman knew that the time to attack was that very evening when the pirates would be celebrating They would gorge themselves with food and wine They would be dead drunk and helpless In the dark of night the four ships stole past the pirate hide-out and landed several miles farther up the shore With the youth in the lead, the five hundred men swiftly stole to the hidden valley, where they saw before them the pirates, sprawling around the fires At a signal from the young Roman the five hundred soldiers, with their dreaded short swords, rushed down from the rocks and fell upon the pirates tooth and nail The slaughter was terrible! Such a whirlwind did the attack prove to be, that it was only a matter of minutes.

"We surrender," cried Spartaco "Who commands you?" The Roman soldiers pointed to the hill The pirate could not believe his eyes! The leader of the smashing attack, carefully picking his way past the slaughtered pirates, was none other than the slender, frail youth whom Spartaco had called a weakling and coward

"You see," said the young Roman with a broad smile, "I promised I would be back" Then he ordered his men to get the fifty talents and wash them thoroughly With a contemptuous sneer he said, "These filthy pigs have been pawing the gold" Spartaco, in a towering rage, sprang at the Roman and four soldiers had to hold him off

Taking the ransom and their prisoners back to their ships the Romans sailed for home Upon their arrival the youth wasted no time He had the buccaneers tried, convicted and hanged to the highest trees along the shore, just as he had promised

"Who was our hero?" did you ask? Well, at the time he was only twenty years old, but soon after he was to become the greatest military leader of his time, one of the ablest administrators in history, and ruler of almost the entire world of that day His name was Julius Caesar

The End

CAPT. MARVEL JR.
and the
SECRET OF SKULL ISLAND!
AN AMERICAN SHIP STEAMS THROUGH THE CALM PACIFIC ---- STRAIGHT INTO THE PATH OF AN UNKNOWN HORROR!
RUN FOR YOUR LIFE!
HELP!!!
AGAIN AND AGAIN THE HORROR STRIKES! AMERICAN SHIPS ARE FOUND ABANDONED BY THEIR CREWS.... DRIFTING....OR PILED UP ON CORAL REEFS!

U.S ARMY AND NAVY HEADS CONFER '

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT, GENERAL ! THE CREWS DISAPPEAR, TO THE LAST MAN! NOT A SURVIVOR TO TELL US WHAT HAPPENED!

IT SEEMS UNCANNY, ADMIRAL! I KNOW THE JAPS ARE RESPONSIBLE! BUT HOW ?

STAR

MORE U.S. SHIPS FOUND ABANDONED IN PACIFIC.

OUR LOSSES THROUGH THE MYSTERIOUS NEW JAPANESE WEAPON GROW MORE AND MORE ALARMING!

NEWS AGENCIES FEATURE THE MYSTERY!

NEWSBOY FREDDY FREEMAN SEES THE HEADLINES!

GOSH, SOMETHING'S GOT TO BE DONE ABOUT THIS ! WE CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE THOSE SHIPS! CAPTAIN MARVEL !

AT THE MAGIC NAME OF AMERICA'S HERO, LIGHTNING FLASHES, THUNDER CRASHES AND

BOOM

THE LAME NEWSBOY IS TRANSFORMED...

THOSE NEWS-PAPER ACCOUNTS GAVE ME AN IDEA! ALL THOSE SHIPS WERE FOUND DRIFTING NEAR SKULL ISLAND! THAT'S MY FIRST STOP!

. . INTO THE WORLD'S MOST INVINCIBLE BOY... CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!

MYSTERIOUS SKULL ISLAND, UNEXPLORED PACIFIC ISLE, DOES IT PROVIDE THE ANSWER TO THE MYSTERIOUS SINKINGS?

LET US LOOK INTO A VAST CAVERN BENEATH THE ISLAND'S SURFACE.

DR. SATSU! I BRING CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE EMPEROR ON YOUR WORK. BUT TELL ME HOW DID YOU

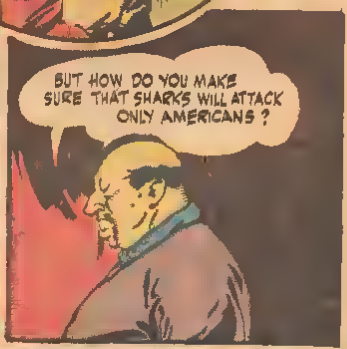
COME, GENERAL NIPPO. I WILL EXPLAIN.

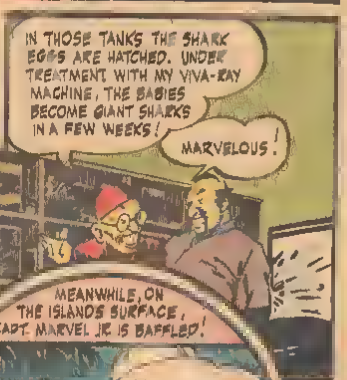
I TOOK THE HARMLESS LITTLE FLYING FISH....

I CROSSED HIM WITH THE MAN-EATING SHARK!

IT TOOK A THOUSAND EXPERIMENTS, BUT I SUCCEEDED! MY CREATION--- THE FLYING SHARK! BIGGER, MORE BLOOD-THIRSTY THAN ANY CREATURE OF EARTH!

THERE! NEWEST AND DEADLIEST OF EARTH'S CREATURES! WHEN THE SHARKS FLY THROUGH THE AIR, THERE IS NO SAFETY ANYWHERE!

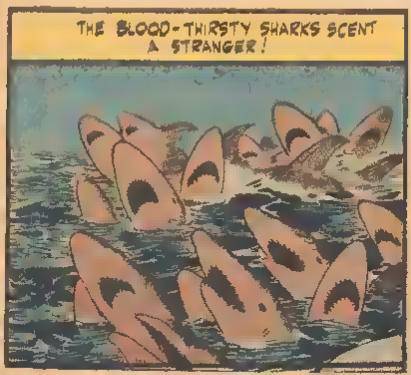

BUT HOW DO YOU MAKE SURE THAT SHARKS WILL ATTACK ONLY AMERICANS?

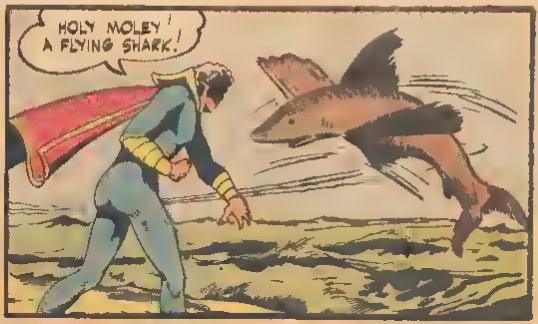

IN THOSE TANKS THE SHARK EGGS ARE HATCHED. UNDER TREATMENT WITH MY VIVA-RAY MACHINE, THE BABIES BECOME GIANT SHARKS IN A FEW WEEKS!
MARVELOUS!

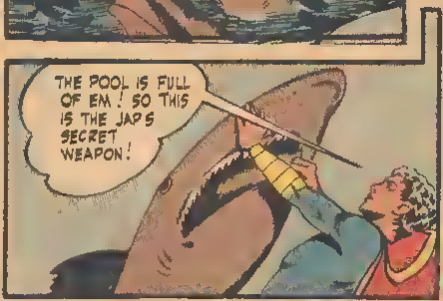
MY SHARKS ARE TRAINED LIKE BLOODHOUNDS--- TO FOLLOW ANY SCENT THAT IS GIVEN THEM!

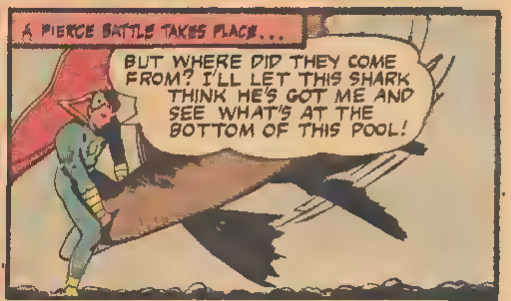
YOU SEE HOW HE JUMPS AT THEM?

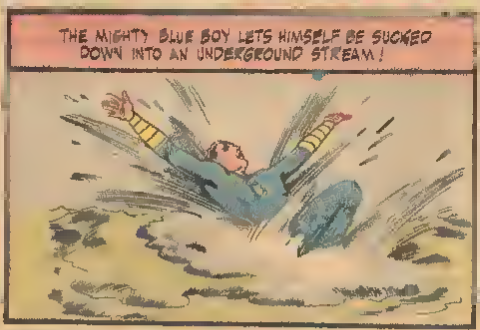
MEANWHILE, ON THE ISLANDS SURFACE, CAPT. MARVEL JR. IS BAFFLED!
I'VE FLOWN ALL OVER THE ISLAND, AND SEEN---NOTHING! CAN I BE WRONG ABOUT SKULL ISLAND?


THE BLOOD-THIRSTY SHARKS SCENT A STRANGER!

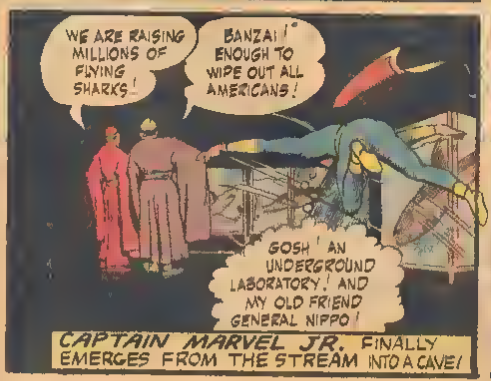

HOLY MOLEY! A FLYING SHARK!


THE POOL IS FULL OF EM! SO THIS IS THE JAP'S SECRET WEAPON!

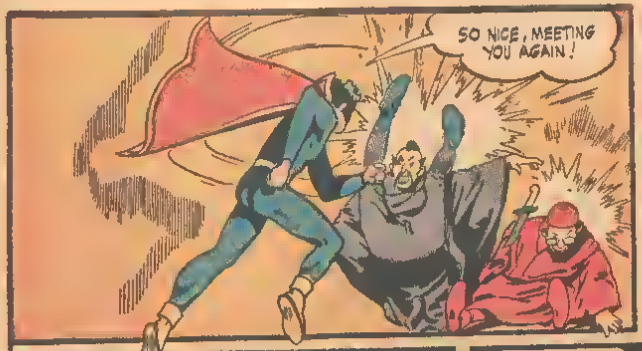

A FIERCE BATTLE TAKES PLACE...
BUT WHERE DID THEY COME FROM? I'LL LET THIS SHARK THINK HE'S GOT ME AND SEE WHAT'S AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS POOL!


THE MIGHTY BLUE BOY LETS HIMSELF BE SUCKED DOWN INTO AN UNDERGROUND STREAM!

HOPE THIS ISN'T A DEAD END!


WE ARE RAISING MILLIONS OF FLYING SHARKS!
BANZAI! ENOUGH TO WIPE OUT ALL AMERICANS!
GOSH! AN UNDERGROUND LABORATORY! AND MY OLD FRIEND GENERAL NIPPO!
CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. FINALLY EMERGES FROM THE STREAM INTO A CAVE!

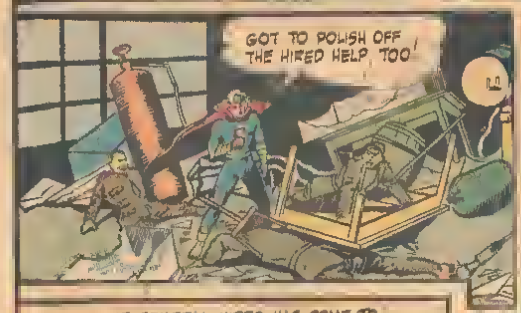
I MIGHT HAVE KNOWN YOU'D BE BEHIND THIS, NIPPO!
OHH! ISS CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!

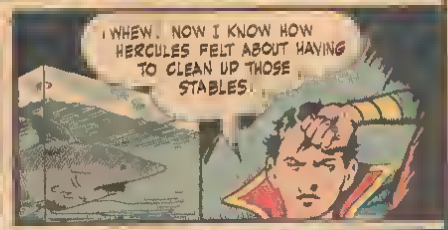

SO NICE, MEETING YOU AGAIN!

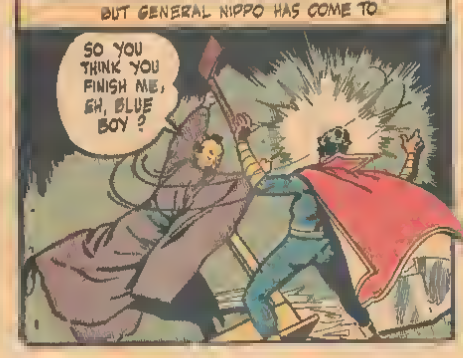
THEY'LL KEEP! FOR AWHILE. I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO!

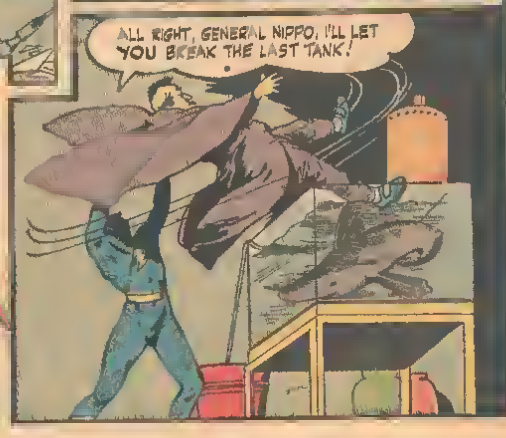
I'LL FIX THIS DEVIL'S DEN SO THEY'LL NEVER BREED ANOTHER SHARK!

NEXT, THE TANKS! THESE SHARKS MAY BE ABLE TO FLY BUT THEY WON'T LIVE LONG WITHOUT WATER!


GOT TO POLISH OFF THE HIRED HELP, TOO!


WHEW. NOW I KNOW HOW HERCULES FELT ABOUT HAVING TO CLEAN UP THOSE STABLES.


BUT GENERAL NIPPO HAS COME TO
SO YOU THINK YOU FINISH ME, EH, BLUE BOY?


ALL RIGHT, GENERAL NIPPO, I'LL LET YOU BREAK THE LAST TANK!

WOW!
HA, HA!
SHARK SHOULD NOT BITE HAND THAT FEEDS HIM!
FALLING FROM THE BROKEN TANK, NIPPO TEARS AWAY FROM THE SHARK!
AT LEAST I HAVE GIVEN CAPTAIN MARVEL JR. THE SLIP!
TO TOKYO! AND NO HONORABLE WISECRACKS ABOUT RIPPED PANTS!
SO THE SHARKS DON'T LIKE THE JAPS! THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!
IT WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME CLEANING OUT ALL THESE SHARK POOLS.
WHEN THEY'LL JUST FOLLOW THE GENERAL'S PANTS...
TO TOKYO!

SHARKS HAVE TURNED ON JAPANESE FRIENDS! MUST GIVE AIR RAID ALARM!
IN TOKYO, THE AIR RAID SIRENS SOUND THE ALARM!
EEEAAAA! EEEAAAAA
AND GET THE BOY IN BLUE FIRST! HE STARTED ALL THIS! OH CURSED DAY!
GENERAL NIPPO TAKES COMMAND OF THE JAP DEFENSES!
COME ON, YOU FLYING BLOODHOUNDS!
CAN'T HURT ME GENERAL NIPPO! GO AHEAD, WASTE YOUR AMMUNITION
THE SHARKS TAKE MATTERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS!
HELP! DEMONS! FLEE!
FIRST DOOLITLE, THEN B-29'S, NOW THIS! HONORABLE SOLDIERS QUIT!
TERRORIZED BY THE FLYING SHARKS THE JAPS LEAVE THE CITY IN RUINS!
BACK TO THE GOOD OLD U.S.A.!
Dear Diary
Captain Marvel
Ir certainly turned the tables on those Japs He saved the troops, made the Japs destroy their own sharks and gave them an air raid they won't forget for a long, long time
Freddy